

Fire Information – Spotted Bear 2015 Fires Tuesday September 1, 2015



Flathead National Forest

Fire Information: (406) 758-5376

Email: pioinfoal@gmail.com

bearcreekfire2015@gmail.com

Web: www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/



Fire Summary

Bear Creek Fire - Size: 67,754 Acres Reports indicate a wide variation in the amount of precipitation received across the area. Within the vicinity of Spotted Bear Ranger District, the west side received the most moisture and areas to the east and south received less. Another day of limited fire growth provided firefighters with an opportunity to continue containment efforts on spot fires and work on hazard tree removal and slash associated with the shaded fuel break.

Crews have made significant progress on containment and mop-up of the three spot fires associated with the Bear Creek Fire. The largest spot fire (76 acres) is expected to be fully contained today; mop-up and hazard tree removal continues in that area. Crews also focused on hazard tree removal and installing a check line where necessary around the smaller 5-acre and 0.5-acre spot fires. Handling hazard trees are especially important for road safety as well as the safety of firefighters. Prepping the forest for the busy hunting season is a priority, while crews continue to monitor fire progress and mitigate safety hazards within the burned area. No additional burn-outs are planned for today.

Structure protection (hoses, water pumps, and sprinklers) remains in place at the three guest ranches - Diamond R, Spotted Bear Ranch and Wilderness Lodge as well as the Spotted Bear Ranger Station itself. Some structure protection resources may be re-allocated towards helping with hazardous tree removal operations on the Bear Creek and Trail Creek Fire areas and surrounding access roads.

Trail Creek Fire - Size: 21,316 acres Firefighters observed wetter conditions on the western portion of the Trail Creek Fire than on the eastern side. As with the Bear Creek Fire, crews will focus on hazard tree removal and improving safety throughout the area. Structure protection (wrapping buildings with fire resistant material and placing hoses, pumps and sprinklers in the area) for buildings in the Schafer Creek drainage will continue. Eleven firefighters will likely finish structure protection at Schafer Meadows today; some personnel at Schafer Meadows are expected to be reallocated to other priorities with completion of the work station protection activities.

140 personnel are assigned to the all of the fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District.

CLOSURES

- Due to increased fire activity and the number of fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas, **the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas on the Spotted Bear Ranger District are CLOSED** for public and firefighter safety. Portions of the Great Bear Wilderness on the Hungry Horse Ranger District will be also be closed. (See attached maps)
- The Spotted Bear Campground is **CLOSED** and will be used for fire fighter staging areas.
- An Area Closure to the east and south of the Holland Lake Area including Upper Holland Lake, Sapphire Lakes, Holland Lookout, and the Holland/Gordon Trail #35. Trail #416 to Holland Falls is open. Holland Lake Lodge and the Holland Lake Campground are OPEN.
- The Flathead National Forest is in Stage II Fire Restrictions. All forest users are asked to comply and remain diligent on the risks that exist. For further information go to the Flathead National Forest web page: www.fs.usda.gov/flathead OR www.firerestrictions.us

Spotted Bear District Fires

A number of fires are burning throughout the Spotted Bear Ranger District. All of the fires have been prioritized based on availability of crews and values at risk. Most of the fires are unstaffed although they are being monitored for growth and fire behavior. Nine people have been allocated to address the new Trident Fire, identified in the southern part of the Spotted Bear Ranger District. Structure protection is in place at threatened backcountry cabins and work stations, including Shafer Meadows, Pentagon Cabin and Black Bear Cabin.

The following fires are burning in the Spotted Bear River drainage:

- **Three Sisters Fire** 431 acres
The fire is burning in very steep, rocky terrain at high elevation in the upper portions of Three Sisters Creek in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The fire has crossed over on to the Lewis and Clark National Forest. The fire is being managed to allow natural fire to play its ecological role in the Wilderness. As a precaution, the Rock Creek administrative cabin has been wrapped with fire resistant material. Trails are closed in the immediate area. See <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/lcnf/alerts-notices> for details
- **Goat Spur Fire** 15 acres This fire is being managed along with the Three Sisters Fire
- **Milk Fire** 100 acres Merged with the Trail Creek Fire; Silvertip cabin wrapped
- **Upper Twin Creek Fire** 1/10th acre This fire has merged with the Trail Creek Fire
- **Hart Lake Fire** 75 acres Burning in the basin above the lake
- **Pentagon Fire** 1/10th acre Burning above the Spotted Bear River Trail

The following fires are burning in the Middle Fork drainage - Great Bear/Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Cap Mountain Fire** 0.25 acres
- **Bone Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Miner Creek Fire** 265 acres Merged with Trail Creek 8/29
- **Miner Lake Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Burnt Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Muskrat Fire** 1300 acres This fire is burning on the Lewis and Clark National Forest and is adjacent to the Spotted Bear Ranger District

The following fires are burning in the South Fork drainage - Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Woodward Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Babcock Creek Fire** 1/4 acre This fire is smokeless at this time
- **Tillson Fire** 40 acres This Fire has become more active
- **Youngs Creek Fire** 800 acres The fire is on the ridge between Ross Cr. and Devine Cr
- **Holbrook Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Rock Creek Fire** 50 acre The fire is moving toward the Continental Divide
- **Spring Lake Fire** 850 acres The fire is active and moving up toward the Continental Divide
- **Lena Lake Fire** 1500 acres Structure protection completed at Shaw and Pendant Cabins.
- **Trident Fire** 1/4 acre New start on 8/31

-End-

Fire Information – Spotted Bear 2015 Fires Tuesday September 1, 2015



Flathead National Forest

Fire Information: (406) 758-5376

Email: pioinfoal@gmail.com

bearcreekfire2015@gmail.com

Web: www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/



Fire Summary

Bear Creek Fire - Size: 67,754 Acres Reports indicate a wide variation in the amount of precipitation received across the area. Within the vicinity of Spotted Bear Ranger District, the west side received the most moisture and areas to the east and south received less. Another day of limited fire growth provided firefighters with an opportunity to continue containment efforts on spot fires and work on hazard tree removal and slash associated with the shaded fuel break.

Crews have made significant progress on containment and mop-up of the three spot fires associated with the Bear Creek Fire. The largest spot fire (76 acres) is expected to be fully contained today; mop-up and hazard tree removal continues in that area. Crews also focused on hazard tree removal and installing a check line where necessary around the smaller 5-acre and 0.5-acre spot fires. Handling hazard trees are especially important for road safety as well as the safety of firefighters. Prepping the forest for the busy hunting season is a priority, while crews continue to monitor fire progress and mitigate safety hazards within the burned area. No additional burn-outs are planned for today.

Structure protection (hoses, water pumps, and sprinklers) remains in place at the three guest ranches - Diamond R, Spotted Bear Ranch and Wilderness Lodge as well as the Spotted Bear Ranger Station itself. Some structure protection resources may be re-allocated towards helping with hazardous tree removal operations on the Bear Creek and Trail Creek Fire areas and surrounding access roads.

Trail Creek Fire - Size: 21,316 acres Firefighters observed wetter conditions on the western portion of the Trail Creek Fire than on the eastern side. As with the Bear Creek Fire, crews will focus on hazard tree removal and improving safety throughout the area. Structure protection (wrapping buildings with fire resistant material and placing hoses, pumps and sprinklers in the area) for buildings in the Schafer Creek drainage will continue. Eleven firefighters will likely finish structure protection at Schafer Meadows today; some personnel at Schafer Meadows are expected to be reallocated to other priorities with completion of the work station protection activities.

140 personnel are assigned to the all of the fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District.

CLOSURES

- Due to increased fire activity and the number of fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas, **the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas on the Spotted Bear Ranger District are CLOSED** for public and firefighter safety. Portions of the Great Bear Wilderness on the Hungry Horse Ranger District will be also be closed. (See attached maps)
- The Spotted Bear Campground is **CLOSED** and will be used for fire fighter staging areas.
- An Area Closure to the east and south of the Holland Lake Area including Upper Holland Lake, Sapphire Lakes, Holland Lookout, and the Holland/Gordon Trail #35. Trail #416 to Holland Falls is open. Holland Lake Lodge and the Holland Lake Campground are OPEN.
- The Flathead National Forest is in Stage II Fire Restrictions. All forest users are asked to comply and remain diligent on the risks that exist. For further information go to the Flathead National Forest web page: www.fs.usda.gov/flathead OR www.firerestrictions.us

Spotted Bear District Fires

A number of fires are burning throughout the Spotted Bear Ranger District. All of the fires have been prioritized based on availability of crews and values at risk. Most of the fires are unstaffed although they are being monitored for growth and fire behavior. Nine people have been allocated to address the new Trident Fire, identified in the southern part of the Spotted Bear Ranger District. Structure protection is in place at threatened backcountry cabins and work stations, including Shafer Meadows, Pentagon Cabin and Black Bear Cabin.

The following fires are burning in the Spotted Bear River drainage:

- **Three Sisters Fire** 431 acres
The fire is burning in very steep, rocky terrain at high elevation in the upper portions of Three Sisters Creek in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The fire has crossed over on to the Lewis and Clark National Forest. The fire is being managed to allow natural fire to play its ecological role in the Wilderness. As a precaution, the Rock Creek administrative cabin has been wrapped with fire resistant material. Trails are closed in the immediate area. See <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/lcnf/alerts-notices> for details
- **Goat Spur Fire** 15 acres This fire is being managed along with the Three Sisters Fire
- **Milk Fire** 100 acres Merged with the Trail Creek Fire; Silvertip cabin wrapped
- **Upper Twin Creek Fire** 1/10th acre This fire has merged with the Trail Creek Fire
- **Hart Lake Fire** 75 acres Burning in the basin above the lake
- **Pentagon Fire** 1/10th acre Burning above the Spotted Bear River Trail

The following fires are burning in the Middle Fork drainage - Great Bear/Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Cap Mountain Fire** 0.25 acres
- **Bone Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Miner Creek Fire** 265 acres Merged with Trail Creek 8/29
- **Miner Lake Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Burnt Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Muskrat Fire** 1300 acres This fire is burning on the Lewis and Clark National Forest and is adjacent to the Spotted Bear Ranger District

The following fires are burning in the South Fork drainage - Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Woodward Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Babcock Creek Fire** 1/4 acre This fire is smokeless at this time
- **Tillson Fire** 40 acres This Fire has become more active
- **Youngs Creek Fire** 800 acres The fire is on the ridge between Ross Cr. and Devine Cr
- **Holbrook Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Rock Creek Fire** 50 acre The fire is moving toward the Continental Divide
- **Spring Lake Fire** 850 acres The fire is active and moving up toward the Continental Divide
- **Lena Lake Fire** 1500 acres Structure protection completed at Shaw and Pendant Cabins.
- **Trident Fire** 1/4 acre New start on 8/31

-End-

Fire Information – Spotted Bear 2015 Fires Tuesday September 1, 2015



Flathead National Forest

Fire Information: (406) 758-5376

Email: pioinfoal@gmail.com

bearcreekfire2015@gmail.com

Web: www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/



Fire Summary

Bear Creek Fire - Size: 67,754 Acres Reports indicate a wide variation in the amount of precipitation received across the area. Within the vicinity of Spotted Bear Ranger District, the west side received the most moisture and areas to the east and south received less. Another day of limited fire growth provided firefighters with an opportunity to continue containment efforts on spot fires and work on hazard tree removal and slash associated with the shaded fuel break.

Crews have made significant progress on containment and mop-up of the three spot fires associated with the Bear Creek Fire. The largest spot fire (76 acres) is expected to be fully contained today; mop-up and hazard tree removal continues in that area. Crews also focused on hazard tree removal and installing a check line where necessary around the smaller 5-acre and 0.5-acre spot fires. Handling hazard trees are especially important for road safety as well as the safety of firefighters. Prepping the forest for the busy hunting season is a priority, while crews continue to monitor fire progress and mitigate safety hazards within the burned area. No additional burn-outs are planned for today.

Structure protection (hoses, water pumps, and sprinklers) remains in place at the three guest ranches - Diamond R, Spotted Bear Ranch and Wilderness Lodge as well as the Spotted Bear Ranger Station itself. Some structure protection resources may be re-allocated towards helping with hazardous tree removal operations on the Bear Creek and Trail Creek Fire areas and surrounding access roads.

Trail Creek Fire - Size: 21,316 acres Firefighters observed wetter conditions on the western portion of the Trail Creek Fire than on the eastern side. As with the Bear Creek Fire, crews will focus on hazard tree removal and improving safety throughout the area. Structure protection (wrapping buildings with fire resistant material and placing hoses, pumps and sprinklers in the area) for buildings in the Schafer Creek drainage will continue. Eleven firefighters will likely finish structure protection at Schafer Meadows today; some personnel at Schafer Meadows are expected to be reallocated to other priorities with completion of the work station protection activities.

140 personnel are assigned to the all of the fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District.

CLOSURES

- Due to increased fire activity and the number of fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas, **the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas on the Spotted Bear Ranger District are CLOSED** for public and firefighter safety. Portions of the Great Bear Wilderness on the Hungry Horse Ranger District will be also be closed. (See attached maps)
- The Spotted Bear Campground is **CLOSED** and will be used for fire fighter staging areas.
- An Area Closure to the east and south of the Holland Lake Area including Upper Holland Lake, Sapphire Lakes, Holland Lookout, and the Holland/Gordon Trail #35. Trail #416 to Holland Falls is open. Holland Lake Lodge and the Holland Lake Campground are OPEN.
- The Flathead National Forest is in Stage II Fire Restrictions. All forest users are asked to comply and remain diligent on the risks that exist. For further information go to the Flathead National Forest web page: www.fs.usda.gov/flathead OR www.firerestrictions.us

Spotted Bear District Fires

A number of fires are burning throughout the Spotted Bear Ranger District. All of the fires have been prioritized based on availability of crews and values at risk. Most of the fires are unstaffed although they are being monitored for growth and fire behavior. Nine people have been allocated to address the new Trident Fire, identified in the southern part of the Spotted Bear Ranger District. Structure protection is in place at threatened backcountry cabins and work stations, including Shafer Meadows, Pentagon Cabin and Black Bear Cabin.

The following fires are burning in the Spotted Bear River drainage:

- **Three Sisters Fire** 431 acres
The fire is burning in very steep, rocky terrain at high elevation in the upper portions of Three Sisters Creek in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The fire has crossed over on to the Lewis and Clark National Forest. The fire is being managed to allow natural fire to play its ecological role in the Wilderness. As a precaution, the Rock Creek administrative cabin has been wrapped with fire resistant material. Trails are closed in the immediate area. See <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/lcnf/alerts-notices> for details
- **Goat Spur Fire** 15 acres This fire is being managed along with the Three Sisters Fire
- **Milk Fire** 100 acres Merged with the Trail Creek Fire; Silvertip cabin wrapped
- **Upper Twin Creek Fire** 1/10th acre This fire has merged with the Trail Creek Fire
- **Hart Lake Fire** 75 acres Burning in the basin above the lake
- **Pentagon Fire** 1/10th acre Burning above the Spotted Bear River Trail

The following fires are burning in the Middle Fork drainage - Great Bear/Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Cap Mountain Fire** 0.25 acres
- **Bone Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Miner Creek Fire** 265 acres Merged with Trail Creek 8/29
- **Miner Lake Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Burnt Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Muskrat Fire** 1300 acres This fire is burning on the Lewis and Clark National Forest and is adjacent to the Spotted Bear Ranger District

The following fires are burning in the South Fork drainage - Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Woodward Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Babcock Creek Fire** 1/4 acre This fire is smokeless at this time
- **Tillson Fire** 40 acres This Fire has become more active
- **Youngs Creek Fire** 800 acres The fire is on the ridge between Ross Cr. and Devine Cr
- **Holbrook Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Rock Creek Fire** 50 acre The fire is moving toward the Continental Divide
- **Spring Lake Fire** 850 acres The fire is active and moving up toward the Continental Divide
- **Lena Lake Fire** 1500 acres Structure protection completed at Shaw and Pendant Cabins.
- **Trident Fire** 1/4 acre New start on 8/31

-End-

Fire Information – Spotted Bear 2015 Fires Tuesday September 1, 2015



Flathead National Forest

Fire Information: (406) 758-5376

Email: pioinfoal@gmail.com

bearcreekfire2015@gmail.com

Web: www.inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/



Fire Summary

Bear Creek Fire - Size: 67,754 Acres Reports indicate a wide variation in the amount of precipitation received across the area. Within the vicinity of Spotted Bear Ranger District, the west side received the most moisture and areas to the east and south received less. Another day of limited fire growth provided firefighters with an opportunity to continue containment efforts on spot fires and work on hazard tree removal and slash associated with the shaded fuel break.

Crews have made significant progress on containment and mop-up of the three spot fires associated with the Bear Creek Fire. The largest spot fire (76 acres) is expected to be fully contained today; mop-up and hazard tree removal continues in that area. Crews also focused on hazard tree removal and installing a check line where necessary around the smaller 5-acre and 0.5-acre spot fires. Handling hazard trees are especially important for road safety as well as the safety of firefighters. Prepping the forest for the busy hunting season is a priority, while crews continue to monitor fire progress and mitigate safety hazards within the burned area. No additional burn-outs are planned for today.

Structure protection (hoses, water pumps, and sprinklers) remains in place at the three guest ranches - Diamond R, Spotted Bear Ranch and Wilderness Lodge as well as the Spotted Bear Ranger Station itself. Some structure protection resources may be re-allocated towards helping with hazardous tree removal operations on the Bear Creek and Trail Creek Fire areas and surrounding access roads.

Trail Creek Fire - Size: 21,316 acres Firefighters observed wetter conditions on the western portion of the Trail Creek Fire than on the eastern side. As with the Bear Creek Fire, crews will focus on hazard tree removal and improving safety throughout the area. Structure protection (wrapping buildings with fire resistant material and placing hoses, pumps and sprinklers in the area) for buildings in the Schafer Creek drainage will continue. Eleven firefighters will likely finish structure protection at Schafer Meadows today; some personnel at Schafer Meadows are expected to be reallocated to other priorities with completion of the work station protection activities.

140 personnel are assigned to the all of the fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District.

CLOSURES

- Due to increased fire activity and the number of fires on the Spotted Bear Ranger District in the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas, **the Bob Marshall and Great Bear Wilderness Areas on the Spotted Bear Ranger District are CLOSED** for public and firefighter safety. Portions of the Great Bear Wilderness on the Hungry Horse Ranger District will be also be closed. (See attached maps)
- The Spotted Bear Campground is **CLOSED** and will be used for fire fighter staging areas.
- An Area Closure to the east and south of the Holland Lake Area including Upper Holland Lake, Sapphire Lakes, Holland Lookout, and the Holland/Gordon Trail #35. Trail #416 to Holland Falls is open. Holland Lake Lodge and the Holland Lake Campground are OPEN.
- The Flathead National Forest is in Stage II Fire Restrictions. All forest users are asked to comply and remain diligent on the risks that exist. For further information go to the Flathead National Forest web page: www.fs.usda.gov/flathead OR www.firerestrictions.us

Spotted Bear District Fires

A number of fires are burning throughout the Spotted Bear Ranger District. All of the fires have been prioritized based on availability of crews and values at risk. Most of the fires are unstaffed although they are being monitored for growth and fire behavior. Nine people have been allocated to address the new Trident Fire, identified in the southern part of the Spotted Bear Ranger District. Structure protection is in place at threatened backcountry cabins and work stations, including Shafer Meadows, Pentagon Cabin and Black Bear Cabin.

The following fires are burning in the Spotted Bear River drainage:

- **Three Sisters Fire** 431 acres
The fire is burning in very steep, rocky terrain at high elevation in the upper portions of Three Sisters Creek in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. The fire has crossed over on to the Lewis and Clark National Forest. The fire is being managed to allow natural fire to play its ecological role in the Wilderness. As a precaution, the Rock Creek administrative cabin has been wrapped with fire resistant material. Trails are closed in the immediate area. See <http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/lcnf/alerts-notices> for details
- **Goat Spur Fire** 15 acres This fire is being managed along with the Three Sisters Fire
- **Milk Fire** 100 acres Merged with the Trail Creek Fire; Silvertip cabin wrapped
- **Upper Twin Creek Fire** 1/10th acre This fire has merged with the Trail Creek Fire
- **Hart Lake Fire** 75 acres Burning in the basin above the lake
- **Pentagon Fire** 1/10th acre Burning above the Spotted Bear River Trail

The following fires are burning in the Middle Fork drainage - Great Bear/Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Cap Mountain Fire** 0.25 acres
- **Bone Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Miner Creek Fire** 265 acres Merged with Trail Creek 8/29
- **Miner Lake Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Burnt Creek Fire** 1 acre
- **Muskrat Fire** 1300 acres This fire is burning on the Lewis and Clark National Forest and is adjacent to the Spotted Bear Ranger District

The following fires are burning in the South Fork drainage - Bob Marshall Wilderness:

- **Woodward Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Babcock Creek Fire** 1/4 acre This fire is smokeless at this time
- **Tillson Fire** 40 acres This Fire has become more active
- **Youngs Creek Fire** 800 acres The fire is on the ridge between Ross Cr. and Devine Cr
- **Holbrook Fire** 1/10th acre
- **Rock Creek Fire** 50 acre The fire is moving toward the Continental Divide
- **Spring Lake Fire** 850 acres The fire is active and moving up toward the Continental Divide
- **Lena Lake Fire** 1500 acres Structure protection completed at Shaw and Pendant Cabins.
- **Trident Fire** 1/4 acre New start on 8/31

-End-